

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1.(Currently Amended) A power-dividing device for a working vehicle, comprising:

a case member;

an input shaft supported by thesaid case member so that a first end portion of the input shaft can be operatively connected to a driving source;

a PTO unit having a PTO shaft supported by thesaid case member so as to be parallel and offset with respect to thesaid input shaft;

a power transmission mechanism accommodated in thesaid case member to transmit power from thesaid input shaft to thesaid PTO shaft; and

a first hydraulic pump unit which has a first pump shaft arranged parallel to the input shaft ~~operatively connected to said input shaft~~ and a first pump body driven by the first pump shaft, the first hydraulic pump unit being connected to the case member, wherein

the first hydraulic pump unit and which is fluid-connected is fluidly-connectable to an actuator through external conduits, the actuator being disposed away from the case member so as to drive a pair of drive wheels; and

the power transmission from the input shaft to the first pump shaft is performed via the power transmission mechanism~~disposed outside.~~

2. (Currently Amended) A power-dividing device as set forth in claim 1, in which ~~said first pump shaft operatively connected to said input shaft through said power transmission mechanism.~~

the power transmission mechanism includes a drive-side gear supported on the input shaft in a relatively non-rotatable manner, a counter gear engaged with the drive-side gear, a hollow counter shaft supporting the counter gear in a relatively non-rotatable manner, and a driven-side gear supported on the PTO shaft in a relatively rotatable manner and engaged with the counter gear;

the first pump shaft is inserted into the counter shaft in a relatively non-rotatable manner; and

the PTO unit further includes a PTO clutch mechanism for selectively engaging or disengaging power transmission from the drive-side gear to the PTO shaft.

3. (Currently Amended) A power-dividing device for a working vehicle, as set forth in claim 2, comprising:

a case member;

an input shaft supported by the case member so that a first end portion of the input shaft can be operatively connected to a driving source;

a PTO unit having a PTO shaft supported by the case member so as to be offset with respect to the input shaft;

a power transmission mechanism accommodated in the case member to transmit power from the input shaft to the PTO shaft;

a first pump unit which has a first pump shaft operatively connected to the input shaft and which is fluidly-connectable to an actuator disposed outside of the case member; and

the ~~in which said~~ first pump shaft disposed between ~~thesaid~~ input shaft and ~~thesaid~~ PTO shaft in a vertical direction.

4. (Currently Amended) A power-dividing device as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

a second hydraulic pump unit which has a second pump shaft operatively connected to ~~thesaid~~ input shaft via the power transmission mechanism and a second pump body driven by the second pump shaft, the second hydraulic pump unit being connected to the case member at an opposite side of the first hydraulic pump unit and ~~which is fluid-connected~~ being fluidly-connectable to another the actuator disposed outside of the case member.

5. (Currently Amended) A power-dividing device as set forth in claim 4, in which ~~said second pump shaft, is operatively connected to said input shaft through said power transmission mechanism.~~

the power transmission mechanism includes a drive-side gear supported on the input shaft in a relatively non-rotatable manner, a counter gear engaged with the drive-side gear, a hollow counter shaft supporting the counter gear in a relatively non-rotatable manner, and a driven-side gear supported on the PTO shaft in a relatively rotatable manner and engaged with the counter gear;

the first pump shaft and the second pump shaft are inserted into the counter shaft in a relatively non-rotatable manner; and

the PTO unit further includes a PTO clutch mechanism for selectively engaging or disengaging power transmission from the drive-side gear to the PTO shaft.

6. (Currently amended) A power-dividing device as set forth in claim 4, in which the said first and second pump units are formed of the same components.

7. (Currently amended) A power-dividing device for a working vehicle, comprising: as set forth in claim 4,

a case member;

an input shaft supported by the case member so that a first end portion of the input shaft can be operatively connected to a driving source;

a PTO unit having a PTO shaft supported by the case member so as to be offset with respect to the input shaft;

a power transmission mechanism accommodated in the case member to transmit power from the input shaft to the PTO shaft;

a first pump unit which has a first pump shaft operatively connected to the input shaft and which is fluidly-connectable to an actuator disposed outside of the case member; and

a second pump unit which has a second pump shaft operatively connected to the input shaft and which is fluid-connectable to another actuator disposed outside of the case member; wherein

~~in which said~~ the input shaft is disposed along a vehicle back and forth direction,
and
~~thesaid~~ first pump unit and ~~thesaid~~ second pump unit are coupled to the same side
of ~~thesaid~~ case member in the vehicle back and forth direction.

8. (Currently Amended) A power-dividing device for a working vehicle, as set forth in
~~claim 4,~~

a case member;

an input shaft supported by the case member so that a first end portion of the
input shaft can be operatively connected to a driving source;

a PTO unit having a PTO shaft supported by the case member so as to be offset
with respect to the input shaft;

a power transmission mechanism accommodated in the case member to transmit
power from the input shaft to the PTO shaft;

a first pump unit which has a first pump shaft operatively connected to the input
shaft and which is fluid-connectable to an actuator disposed outside of the case member;
and

a second pump unit which has a second pump shaft operatively connected to the
input shaft and which is fluidly-connectable to another actuator disposed outside of the
case member; wherein

~~in which said~~ the input shaft is along a vehicle back and forth direction, and
~~thesaid~~ first pump unit and ~~thesaid~~ second pump unit are coupled to a first side and a
second side of ~~thesaid~~ case member in the vehicle back and forth direction, respectively.

9. (Currently Amended) A power-dividing device as set forth in claim 8, in which thesaid first and second pump shafts are disposed coaxially.

10. (Currently Amended) A power-dividing device as set forth in claim 4, in which the input shaft extends along a back and forth direction of the vehicle, and has the first end portion, which is on a side closed to the driving source, extending outside from the case member so as to be operatively connected to the driving source and a second end portion, which is on an opposite side of the first end portion, also extending outside from the case member so as to drive a charge pump unit;

one of the first and second hydraulic pump units is connected to one side of the case member in the back and forth direction of the vehicle at a position below the first end portion of the input shaft; and

the other of the first and second hydraulic pump units is connected to the other side of the case member in the back and forth direction of the vehicle at a position below the charge pump unit and above an output end portion of the PTO shaft.

~~said first and second pump units respectively include first and second pump cases coupled to said case member, first and second pump main bodies accommodated in said first and second pump cases, and first and second center sections supporting said first and second pump main bodies.~~

~~each of said first and second pump cases includes a proximal end wall having a through hole through which said corresponding pump shaft is inserted and a peripheral wall extending in an axial direction of the corresponding pump shaft from a peripheral~~

~~edge portion of the proximal end wall and having an opening on a free end side, said proximal end wall being coupled to said case member,~~

~~each of said first and second pump main bodies is driven by said corresponding pump shaft and is accommodated into the corresponding pump case from the opening on the free end side of said corresponding pump case, and~~

~~said first and second center sections are coupled to said first and second pump cases, respectively, so as to close the opening on the free end sides of the first and second pump cases.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A power-dividing device as set forth in claim 4, in which

each of the first and second hydraulic pump units further includes an output adjusting member for changing a suction/discharge rate of the corresponding pump body and a control shaft capable of controlling a slanting position of the corresponding output adjusting member from outside of the case member;

the input shaft, the first and second pump shafts and the PTO shaft extends in the back and forth direction of the vehicle;

the first hydraulic pump unit is connected to one side of the case member in the back and forth direction of the vehicle so that the corresponding control shaft extends in one side along the vehicle width direction; and

the second hydraulic pump unit, which has components equal to those of the first hydraulic pump unit, is connected to the other side of the case member in the back and forth direction of the vehicle so that the corresponding control shaft extends in the other side along the vehicle width direction.

~~a working vehicle includes a pair of left and right drive wheels and a ground work machine,~~

~~said power dividing device is disposed between said driving source and said ground work machine in the vehicle back and forth direction,~~

~~shaft operatively connected to an output portion of said driving source and said PTO shaft is operatively connected to said ground work machine, and~~

~~said first and second pump units are fluid connected to a pair of left and right hydraulic motor units and for driving said pair of drive wheels, respectively.~~

12-25. Canceled.